

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

EB-07 ARA-06 NEA-10 AF-08 DHA-02 AID-05 COME-00

FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01

OMB-01 DOTE-00 FMC-01 SAL-01 CG-00 DLOS-04 OES-06

CAB-02 FAA-00 SAJ-01 CU-02 IO-13 /143 W

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R 201536Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5778

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 MADRID 3947

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, SP

SUBJECT: AREILZA REORIENTS AND REORGANIZES FOREIGN MINISTRY

BEGIN SUMMARY. IN THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF HIS STEWARDSHIP  
OF SPANISH FOREIGN AFFAIRS, JOSE MARIA DE AREILZA HAS  
REORGANIZED THE MINISTRY AND CHANGED THE STYLE OF OPERATIONS.

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HIS CONTACTS WITH THE LOCAL AND FOREIGN PRESS, HIS FREQUENT

TRAVELS, A NEW PRACTICE OF BRIEFING THE CORTES AND PARLIAMENTARY GROUPS HAVE ALL CONTRIBUTED TO THE NEW IMAGE OF AN AGGRESSIVE FOREIGN AFFAIRS ESTABLISHMENT. WITH FRANCO GONE, AREILZA, ACTING IN THE NAME OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT, OBVIOUSLY INTENDS TO END FOR GOOD SPAIN'S DIPLOMATIC ISOLATION AND TO DRAW IT CLOSER TO ITS NATURAL FRIENDS IN EUROPE, AS WELL AS TO OTHER COUNTRIES FROM WHICH SPAIN HAS BEEN ESTRANGED.

1. AREILZA'S TRAVLES. WITHIN DAYS OF BECOMING THE FIRST POST-FRANCO FOREIGN MINISTER, AREILZA HAD A MEETING IN PARIS WITH SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER WHICH WAS FOLLOWED IMMEDIATELY BY OTHER MEETINGS WITH FRENCH LEADERS. SINCE THAT TIME, HE HAS VISITED ALL OF THE CAPITALS OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, AS WELL AS RABAT AND WITH HIS PORTUGUESE COLLEAGUE. THE NEW GOVERNMENT, THEREFORE, HAS NOT ONLY SET THE STAGE FOR AN IMPROVED CLIMATE FOR RELATIONS WITH ITS IMMEDIATE NEIGHBORS, BUT ALSO WITH BROADER EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, BESIDES CONCLUDING THE IMPORTANT NEW TREATY WITH THE UNITED STATES. AREILZA HAS ALSO ACTED AS A SPOKESMAN FOR THE GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSED INTERNAL REFORMS, OFTENTIMES A LITTLE AHEAD OF THE GOVERNMENT ITSELF SO THAT HE HAS ACQUIRED THE REPUTATION OF BEING THE MOST LIBERAL MEMBER OF THE CABINET. ALTHOUGH SOME OF HIS STATEMENTS HAVE AROUSED SUSPICION WITHIN SOME INTERNAL POLITICAL CIRCLES, ON BALANCE HE HAS GAINED PRESTIGE FOR HIS EFFECTIVE DEFENSE OF SPAIN'S INTERESTS ABORAD. HE REPORTEDLY WILL CONTINUE HIS TRAVELS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION, (EFTA) DURING THE SUMMER, AS WELL AS INITIATING VISITS TO ONE OR TWO LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES.

2. DIALOGUE WITH THE CORTES. WITHIN A WEEK OF TAKIN OFFICE, AREILZA INVITED LEADING PERSONALITIES OF THE CORTES AND THE NATIONAL COUNCIL TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS FOR A BRIEFING OF CURRENT ISSUES AND A DISCUSSION OF HIS PLANS FOR THE MINISTRY. A MONTH LATER, ON THE EVE OF THE SIGNING OF THE US/SPANISH TREATY, AREILZA WENT TO THE CORTES TO BRIEF DEPUTIES ON THE TREATY NEGOTIATIONS. NOT LONG AFTER THE FORMATION OF THE FIRST PARLIAMENTARY GROUP IN THE CORTES BY LIBERAL-MINDED DEPUTIES, AREILZA HOSTED

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A LUNCHEON FOR THEM. MORE THAN ANY OTHER SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTER IN RECENT PAST. HE HAS SHOWN AN EXTRA-ORDINARY SENSITIVITY TO THE NEED FOR A DIALOGUE BETWEEN HIS MINISTRY AND THE CORTES. THESE EFFORTS WILL CONTINUE, WE ASSUME, FOR THE LIFE OF THE CURRENT CORTES.

3. EXPLOITATION OF PRESS RELATIONS. NEXT TO MINISTER OF

THE INTERIOR FRAGA IRIBARNE, AREILZA IS UNQUESTIONABLY  
THE MOST ACCESSIBLE MINISTER OF THE GOVERNMENT TO THE  
MEDIA. PRIOR TO HIS VISITS TO ANY FOREIGN COUNTRY,  
HE HAS ALWAYS HELD BACKGROUND INTERVIEWS WITH LOCAL SPANISH  
CORRESPONDENTS AND ACCREDITED FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS,  
USUALLY EXTREMELY HELPFUL IN CREATING A FAVORABLE ATMOS-  
PHERE FOR HIS VISITS. IF ANYTHING, AREILZA HAS  
BEEN TOO ACCESSIBLE, AND HE HAS BEEN INDIRECTLY CRITICIZED  
BY PREMIER ARIAS, WHO EVEN PREVENTED ONE OF AREILZA'S  
INTERVIEWS FROM BEING TELEVISED. HIS EXPOSURE AT HOME  
AND ABROAD HAS MADE HIM MUCH MORE KNOWN THAN BEFORE AND  
GIVEN HIM A DISTINCT POLITICAL PROFILE AS A DOMESTIC  
REFORMER AND A PROMOTER OF SPANISH ENTRY INTO EUROPEAN  
INSTITUTIONS.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 MADRID 3947

4. DIPLOMATIC OPENING IN EAST EUROPE AND ELSEWHERE.  
IN ONE OF HIS EARLIER INTERVIEWS, AREILZA MADE CLEAR THAT  
THE NEW SPANISH GOVERNMENT WOULD BE OPEN-MINDED ABOUT  
ESTABLISHING RELATIONS WITH THE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES OF  
EAST EUROPE, ISRAEL AND MEXICO AT AN OPPORTUNE MOMENT.  
ISRAELI LEADERS HAVE ALSO INDICATED IN PRESS INTERVIEWS  
A COMPARABLE APPROACH TO THE QUESTION OF RELATIONS WHICH  
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IN TURN HAS LED TO SOME WARNINGS BY ARAB NATIONS, E.G.  
EGYPT. SPAIN AND MEXICO HAVE REESTABLISHED TRADE AND AIR  
RELATIONS WHICH WERE INTERRUPTED IN OCTOBER 1974 AND THE  
MEXICAN PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE HAS SAID THAT  
HE WOULD ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH  
SPAIN. THE RETURN TO SPAIN OF SOME EXILED REPUBLICAN  
LEADERS IN MEXICO HAS APPARENTLY WITHDRAWN ONE OF THE  
MEXICAN GOVERNMENT'S EXCUSES FOR WITHHOLDING  
RECOGNITION OF THE PRESENT SPANISH GOVERNMENT. THE  
DIRECTOR FOR EUROPEAN AND ATLANTIC AFFAIRS IS CURRENTLY CONCLUDING  
A VISIT TO BELGRADE AND BUCHAREST WHICH COULD LEAD  
TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS WITH ROMANIA AND/OR  
YUGOSLAVIA IN THE REASONABLY NEAR FUTURE. THERE IS NO  
RUSH TO RELATIONS WITH THE EAST, BUT THE GOS EXPECTS  
TO MOVE GRADUALLY TOWARDS NORMAL RELATIONS.

THE SOVIETS PRESENT A SPECIAL CASE. SPAIN AND THE  
USSR, WHICH ALREADY HAVE EXTENSIVE TRADE AND MARITIME  
RELATIONS, RECENTLY SIGNED AN AIR AGREEMENT PROVIDING  
FOR REGULAR FLIGHTS BETWEEN MADRID AND MOSCOW. THE  
SOVIETS, DESPITE ATTACKS ON THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT AND  
VOCAL SUPPORT FOR THE SPANISH COMMUNISTS (PCE) ARE ENGAGED  
IN A PRE-DIPLOMATIC MINUET WITH THE SPANISH. THE MFA  
EXPECTS THE SOVIETS, IN DUE COURSE, WILL SUBORDINATE THE PCE'S  
INTERESTS IN FAVOR OF STATE-TO-STATE INTERESTS AND THE  
PRESSURES OF THE SOVIET INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY FOR  
A MORE SECURE PRESENCE IN SPAIN.

5. REORGANIZATION OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY.  
AREILZA PROCEEDED WITH A REORGANIZATION OF THE MINISTRY  
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS WHICH WAS APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF  
MINISTERS AND TOOK EFFECT APRIL 20, 1976. THE PREAMBLE  
DESCRIBING THE REORGANIZATION (804/1976) STATES THE  
PURPOSE: TO STRENGTHEN THE MINISTRY'S ROLE TO COPE WITH

THE VOLUME OF WORK STEMMING FROM 132 FOREIGN MISSIONS AND TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE "HISTORICAL EPOCH BEGINNING WITH THE MONARCHY." THE MAIN SUBSTANTIVE DIVISIONS OF THE MINISTRY -- THE DIRECTORATE GENERALS -- HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY ONE TO 11, FOUR OF WHICH DEAL WITH GEOGRAPHIC AREAS (EUROPE AND ATLANTIC AFFAIRS, NORTH AMERICA AND THE PACIFIC, AFRICA AND CONTINENTAL ASIA, CONFIDENTIAL

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IBEROAMERICA). THE OTHERS ARE FOREIGN SERVICE, INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS, CULTURAL RELATIONS, CONSULAR AFFAIRS, INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL COOPERATION, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND CONFERENCES, AND THE OFFICE OF DIPLOMATIC INFORMATION. THE SUBSTANTIVE INNOVATION IS THE INTRODUCTION OF ATLANTIC AFFAIRS IN THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR EUROPE. ATLANTIC AFFAIRS WAS FORMERLY IN A LOWER ECHELON OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS. THE OTHER CHANGES INVOLVE THE STRENGTHENING OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND CONFERENCES WHICH WILL HENCEFORTH COORDINATE ALL MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS. THE REORGANIZATION DECREE ALSO REFERS TO THE STRENGTHENING OF THE MINISTRY'S INTERNATIONAL LEGAL ADVISORY SERVICE.

6. AREILZA HAS ALSO PLACED IN KEY POSITIONS PEOPLE WITH WHOM HE HAS PERSONAL POLITICAL AFFILIATION OR WHOSE DIPLOMATIC COMPETENCE HE RECOGNIZED FROM EARLIER ASSOCIATION WITH THE MINISTRY. HIS DEPUTY, MARCELINO OREJA AGUIRRE, THE UNDER SECRETARY, WAS A KEY MEMBER OF FEDISA, THE POLITICAL STUDY GROUP SET UP A YEAR AGO WITH FRAGA IRIBARNE AND PIO CABANILLAS. THE UNDER SECRETARY JOB DESCRIPTION REMAINS THE SAME AS BEFORE -- THE OFFICE OF VATICAN AFFAIRS COMES UNDER HIS DIRECT SUPERVISION-- BUT OREJA FUNCTIONS MORE AS A GENUINE DEPUTY BECAUSE OF HIS CLOSE TIES WITH AREILZA. THE DROPPING OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN THE REORGANIZATION DECREE HAS MEANT THAT THE UNDER SECRETARY EXERCISES BROADER RESPONSIBILITIES THROUGHOUT THE MINISTRY.

7. THE MINISTER'S PERSONAL SECRETARIAT, WHICH IS HEADED BY A DIRECTOR GENERAL, REMAINS AS IT WAS BEFORE REORGANIZATION. PROTOCOL, THE HIGH COUNCIL FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS (AN ADVISORY BODY), THE DIPLOMATIC SCHOOL, THREE AUTONOMOUS STATE ENTITIES (THE INSTITUTE OF HISPANIC CULTURE, THE HISPANIC ARAB CULTURAL INSTITUTE, AND THE PATRONATO DE CASAS), THE LEGAL ADVISORY OFFICE, AND THE ECONOMIC ADVISORY OFFICE, ALL DEPEND DIRECTLY ON THE MINISTER'S PERSONAL SECRETARIAT.  
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